

**Support for Secure Medicine Take-Back Legislation  
Requiring Drug Producers in Washington State  
to Provide and Finance a Secure Medicine Take-Back Program**

**WHEREAS**, the Washington State Legislature is currently considering legislation that will require drug producers selling medicines in Washington to provide and finance a convenient and safe return and disposal program for unwanted prescription and over-the-counter medicines; and

**WHEREAS**, unused leftover medicines in the home are endangering our children and our families through accidental poisonings and abuse, and polluting the water supply threatening our health and the environment; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, in 2004, 95% of unintentional and undetermined poisoning deaths in the U.S. were caused by drugs; and

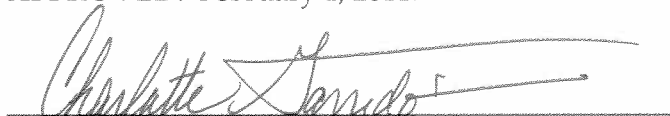
**WHEREAS**, according to data provided by the Washington State Department of Health, fatal poisonings have increased dramatically in our state, up 395% from 1990 to 2006, and, according to the Washington Poison Center, over 17,000 calls made to the Center in 2009 involved young children poisoned by prescription or over-the-counter medicines; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed medicine take-back program will include both prescription and over-the-counter medicines that people use in their homes, and legally prescribed controlled substances such as oxycodone, vicodin, valium, and stimulants or amphetamines that are most likely to be abused; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed medicine take-back program will be run by a non-profit organization, and will be managed and financed by drug producers and not the government, requiring no State funds, and remaining budget neutral to the State and other governmental jurisdictions.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Kitsap Public Health Board hereby supports the passage of Secure Medicine Take-Back Legislation currently under consideration by the Washington State Legislature.

**APPROVED:** February 1, 2011.



Commissioner Charlotte Garrido, Chair  
Kitsap Public Health Board